

## REMARKS

### I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

Various of the claims are amended herein.

New claims 10-18 are added.

Support for the claim amendments and new claims is found, for example, in FIGS. 1 and 7, and the disclosure on page 5, line 32, through page 7, line 16, of the specification. See also FIG. 2, and the disclosure on page 7, line 17, through page 9, line 20, of the specification.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-18 are currently pending.

### II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-9 UNDER 35 USC 103 AS BEING UNPATENTABLE OVER THE ADMITTED PRIOR ART IN VIEW OF EGGLETON

In the present invention as recited, for example, in claim 1, one of the plurality of compensation circuits is selected and the selected compensation circuit is controlled based on information provided to compensate the waveform degradation on the transmission signal. The provided information is at least one of code error information and code error correction information on the compensated transmission signal.

Claim 1 is amended to clarify the above-described features. Somewhat similar amendments are made to independent claims 8 and 9. Support for the amendments is found, for example, in FIGS. 1 and 7, and the disclosure on page 5, line 32, through page 7, line 16, of the specification. See also FIG. 2, and the disclosure on page 7, line 17, through page 9, line 20, of the specification.

The Description of the Related Art section on page 1, line 35, through page 2, line 9, of the specification, relates to a plurality of compensation circuits. A control circuit performs control of the plurality of compensation circuits in a centralized manner.

FIG. 11 of Eggleton discloses feedback control with an error detection circuit 131 being used to control a dispersion compensator 33. See, for example, column 8, line 41, through column 9, line 18, of Eggleton.

However, in Eggleton, only one respective dispersion compensator 33 is controlled by the feedback control.

FIG. 11 of Eggleton discloses a remotely located dispersion compensator 30'. However, no portion of Eggleton discloses that both dispersion compensator 30' and dispersion compensator 33 are used at the same time. Instead, it appears that only one of dispersion

compensators 30' and 33 are used at a time.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that no portion of Eggleton discloses or suggests feedback control of a plurality of dispersion compensators.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that no portion of the Description of the Related Art section of the specification or Eggleton discloses or suggests "selecting" one of the plurality of compensation circuits and controlling the "selected" compensation circuit as recited, for example, in the amended claim 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that, even if Eggleton was combined with the Description of the Related Art section of the specification, the combination would not disclose or suggest the present invention as recited, for example, in claim 1.

New claim 10 recites that the error information is detected and provided in a sequential order for each of the plurality of compensation units. Claims 12 and 14-17 recite somewhat similar features. See also claim 18. See, for example, FIG. 2 and the disclosure on page 7, line 17, through page 9, line 20, of the specification. It is respectfully submitted that neither the Description of the Related Art section of the specification or Eggleton discloses or suggests such features.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection is overcome.

### III. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this response, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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